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# Church Charges CIA With Spying

By William Willoughby  
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The Church of Scientology, claiming it has documented evidence that the Central Intelligence Agency planted spies in its churches and on its staff, has won a restraining order prohibiting the CIA and other federal agencies from destroying records and files they have on the church and its members.

An order, signed by Judge Martin Pense of the U.S. District Court in Hawaii, named the Internal Revenue Service, the National Security Agency and the U.S. Information Agency as well as the CIA.

The Church of Scientology was one of 99 groups named on the IRS list of "enemies" of the Nixon Administration and also was one of the churches named in the FBI's "Coin-telpro" (counter intelligence program) operations disclosed recently.

**THE REV. LAWRENCE** Wilber of the church's Los Angeles headquarters said, "The restraining order will preserve the files so we can gain access to them through legal action. Our goal is to discover the source and extent of the dirty tricks and accomplish reform in this area."

Wilber said the church served papers on the CIA first because "they are presently under heavy fire for domestic intelligence activities and we want to make sure they don't destroy incriminating evidence relating to their activities against our church or parishoners."

Wilber said church officials don't know why they have been singled out since they were not anti-war demonstrators and did not advocate or practice anything that could be considered subversive.

The spokesman said the CIA, through agents acting as members of American embassy staffs, "have written reports containing false and misleading information about the church."

**WILBER ALSO** said a woman who enrolled in the church's program in October in a California city volunteered that in 1969 she had worked for the CIA and was involved in spy activities against the church.

In another instance involving a California church last September, Wilber said, a church staff member was a CIA agent who had joined the church staff under an alias.

Another person who had worked for the CIA only briefly last winter became interested in the Founding Church of Scientology at 2125 S St. NW, but was told by his CIA superior that his continued participation in the church would result in his classification as a "security risk," Wilber said.

"We feel the full scope of illegal governmental intelligence activities fostered by the Nixon administration has yet to come to light," the church official said.

"With the help of this court order we intend to make additional data on these abuses public."

Other churches, religious organizations and persons on the FBI and IRS lists included the National Council of Churches, radio evangelist Carl McIntire, Protestants and other Americans. United For Separation of Church and State, and the Unitarian Universalist Association.

P-Willoughby, William  
CIA 4.01 Domestic  
spying  
ORG 1-Churches-  
Church of Scientology

Pense, MARTIN  
Wilber, LAWRENCE